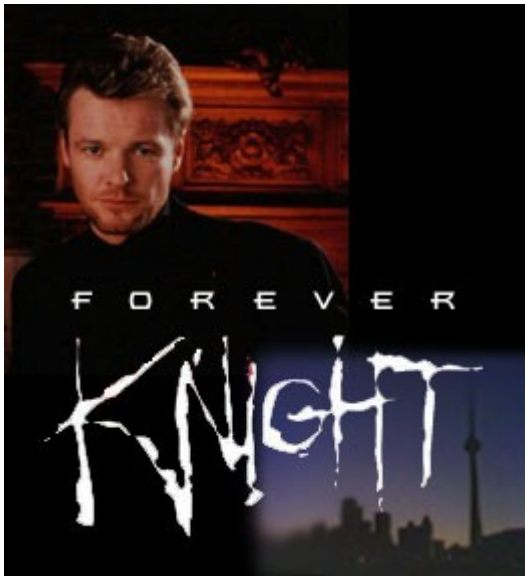
CRUSADER

Newsletter for the Kickstart the Knight Project • April–June 2004

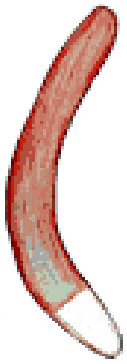
WELCOME!



G'day, mate! Welcome to another edition of the *Crusader*!

Since the crew was feeling a bit tired, we all decided to take a virtual vacation and invite our readers to come along for the ride. In this issue, you'll find everything you need to experience Australia, our vacation location of choice.

Why Down Under, you ask? Well, we were wondering how Nick and Co. got along during the North American summers, when the days are so long and the nights so short. The answer was obvious: leave! Go somewhere where the days are short and the nights long! And where



would that be? Why, in the

Southern Hemisphere—and we thought they'd all enjoy a little taste of Aussie hospitality.

And to add to the fun, we have a new fiction challenge that ties directly to this Aussie-themed trip. The prize for the winning writer will be a surprise bag of Australian-themed fun things!

So pack your bag, grab a Fosters, and come waltzing matilda with us! There'll be shrimp on the barbie for everyone!

Enjoy,
Susan Ellen Field
Editor-in-Chief and Kickstart the Knight Fearless Leader

KtK AUCTION!

May 2–10

auction page

Inside the KtK Valentine Auction
[Auction Items] [Make a Bid]

KtK Spring Auction

The Auction is Over!

Auction Dates

Monday, May 3, 2004 (noon EDT) to
Monday, May 10, 2004 (midnight EDT)

About the Auction

Welcome to the latest Kickstart The Knight auction! Thanks to many wonderful folks, we have collected a terrific variety of items for you to bid on.

The proceeds from this auction will be used for a variety of projects, among them:

- Asking TPTB for more FK merchandise
- Asking the Sci-Fi channel to put FK back on the schedule
- Encouraging Sony to produce DVDs for the second and third seasons
- Donating money to the next LCA auction

Auction Rules

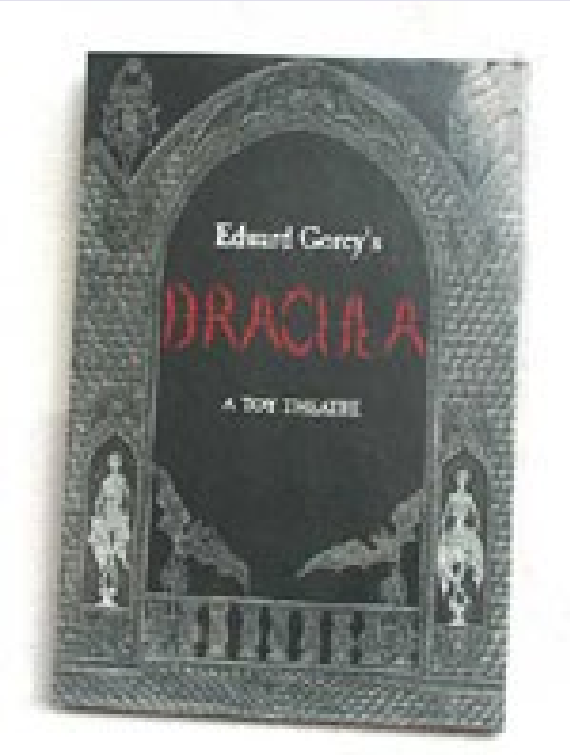
- You must be 18 or older to bid.
- You must use the bidding form on the website to enter your bid on an item. All bids are in US dollars.
- Payment must be made via cashier's check or money order, payable to Susan Ellen Field. Sorry, no personal checks or PayPal payments will be accepted.
- Winning bidders will be notified via email.
- Winning bidders must send their name, address, and payment method to April Hackett within one day of being notified they are a winner.
- **Payment must be received by May 17, 2004. NO EXCEPTIONS! If payment is not received, the item will be offered to the next highest bidder.** If you do not have the funds to cover an auction bid, please do not bid.
- WE WILL SHIP INTERNATIONALLY! All you non-US fans, feel free to bid. Remember, though, payment must be in US dollars.
- Shipping for all items you win is $4 US, $6 internationally. That is, if you win one item or more than one, the shipping fee is still only $4 (or $6 international).

NOTE: Will Nathalie Smith please contact us? Please email sfield8067@aol.com by Wednesday, May 12.

If we do not hear from you by then, the items you won in the auction will be awarded to the next highest bidder.

Auction Items

Final bids as of Monday, May 10, at midnight, EDT



PACKAGE 1

Edward Gorey's Dracula Toy Theatre. This box holds within it a magnificent secret. Once assembled—an easy thing involving a little tape—its contents allow you to present the three-act drama *Dracula*, complete with a full cast, props, and the eeriest of stage sets. Based on the set and costume designed of Edward Gorey for his award-winning Broadway production of Dracula, these die-cut, scored, and perforated foldups and foldouts include three sets, a cast of eight, bits and pieces of furniture to enhance the drama, and a four-page booklet about the play and instructions.

CURRENT BID: $30

Make a bid!

PACKAGE 2

A Lacroix combo! T-shirt with "I spend my nights with the Nightcrawler" on it, framed by a microphone and a white rose, plus a CERK bumper sticker and an autographed photo of Nigel Bennett.

CURRENT BID: $45

Make a bid!

PACKAGE 3

Direct from New York—a King Lear t-shirt! 100% cotton, size Large.

CURRENT BID: $15

Make a bid!

PACKAGE 4

Lincoln Center Bear, by Mary Meyer. Eight inches tall, black and pale green with the Lincoln Center logo on his chest. Totally adorable!

CURRENT BID: $8

Make a bid!

PACKAGE 5

A Nick combo! A small tote bag with a picture of Nick on it, containing a copy of the fanzine, "Unnatural Selection."

(To get an idea of the size of the tote, the fanzine is 8.5 × 11 inches.)

CURRENT BID: $45

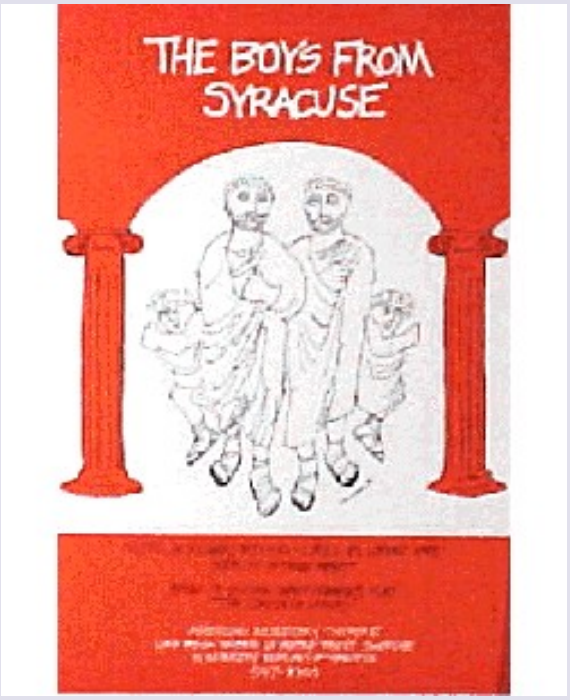
Make a bid!

PACKAGE 6

Fiction combo: a copy of each of the three published FK novels!

CURRENT BID: $300

Make a bid!



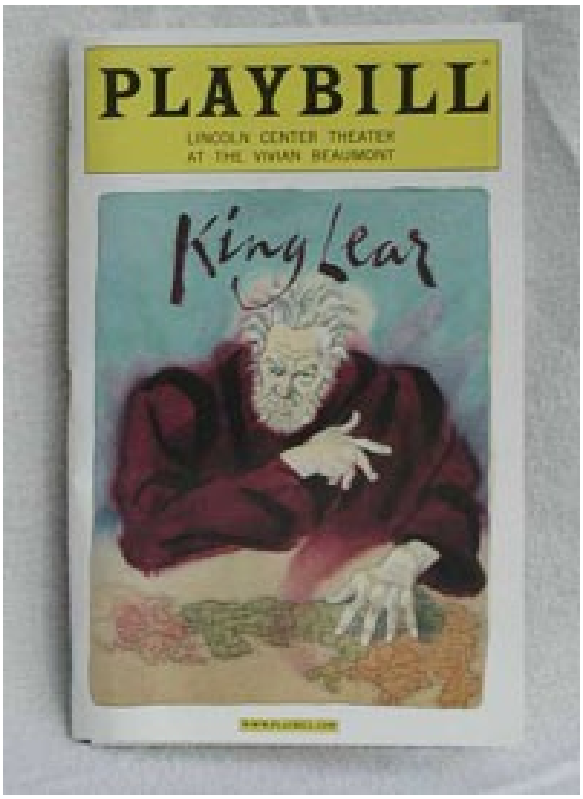
PACKAGE 7

Ger sings and dances and wears a short tunic! "The Boys from Syracuse," filmed on stage at the Festival Theatre in Stratford, is vintage Ger. Every FK fan needs to see this DVD!

(NOTE: This image is just a play poster, and is not on the auction DVD!)

CURRENT BID: $50

Make a bid!



PACKAGE 8

King Lear playbill, autographed by Ger after the March 25 performance. Includes all the inserts from that night's performance.

(Autograph is on the inside, on the page that lists the cast.)

CURRENT BID: $300

Make a bid!

PACKAGE 9

Specially made for our auction—a 2-DVD set of Ger's TV interviews and appearances. Also features interviews with Natsuko Ohama, Catherine Disher, John Kapelos, Ben Bass, and Nigel Bennett. A must-have for any FK fan!

CURRENT BID: $260

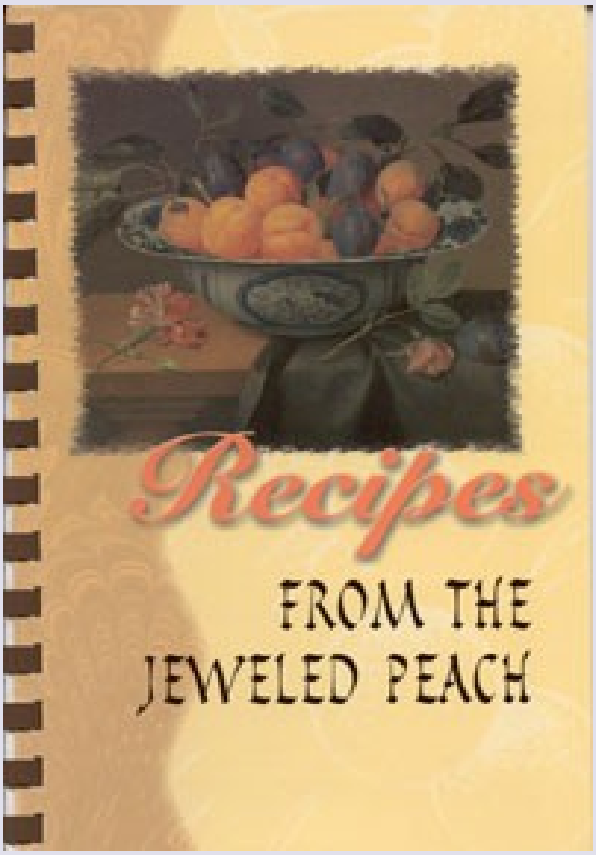
Make a bid!

PACKAGE 10

Lincoln Center long-sleeved t-shirt, a generously-sized Large. Navy blue, 100% cotton. Perfect for lounging! The writing is across the back of the shirt. Comes with a spiffy Lincoln Center keychain.

CURRENT BID: $10

Make a bid!

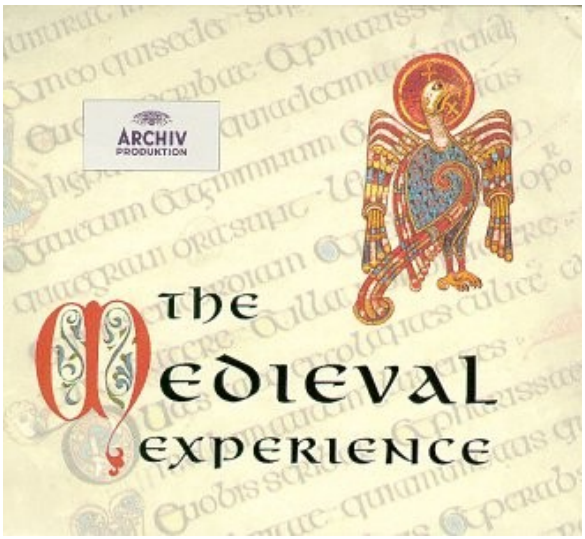


PACKAGE 11

Cook with that Nunkies flair! The "Recipes From the Jeweled Peach" cookbook contains recipes collected by the Addicts. Why, it'll make you want to buy nonsensible shoes and a toga! Comes with a Nunkies Scout button.

CURRENT BID: $25

Make a bid!

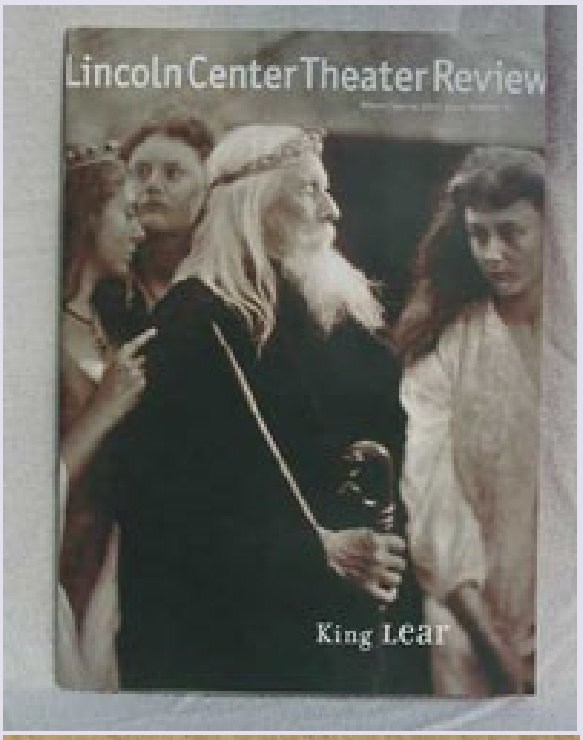


PACKAGE 12

Four-disc CD set, "The Medieval Experience," sacred and secular music from the High Middle Ages tot he Early Renaissance. Includes a Knight Light that provides a gentle green light to guide you through the dark of night.

CURRENT BID: $50

Make a bid!



PACKAGE 13

A copy of the Lincoln Center Theatre Review magazine, with essays on the theme of King Lear. Includes a Lincoln Center keychain.

CURRENT BID:

Make a bid!

PACKAGE 14

The FK DVDs! Own your own set of the first season DVDs—something every fan should have!

CURRENT BID: $40

Make a bid!

Due to bidder problems with our last auction, we now require a **verifiable email and mailing address** for all bidders before your bid is accepted. Please provide us with your mailing address the **first time you enter a bid**. Any bids you make after that require only your name and email address.

We will send a confirmation email to the email address you give us the first time you bid, and will check the mailing address using one of the online mapping websites to verify that it is genuine. We apologize for any inconvenience this may cause you, but unfortunately it's necessary to keep our charity auction trouble-free.

The Auction is Over. Thanks for Bidding!

Your name (Please enter your real name, not a screen name)

Your email address

Your bid

REQUIRED WITH YOUR FIRST BID ON THIS AUCTION—please enter your street address the FIRST TIME you bid. You don't have to provide this

information on any subsequent bids for this auction.

Street address

City

State/province

ZIP/postal code

Country

Fiction Challenge

[Fanfic Challenge Entries] [Fanfic Challenge Voting Form]

June 20 Update:

The initial voting is over—and we've got a tie!

Thanks to everyone who voted in the Didgeridoo Challenge! We counted and recounted the votes, and came up with a tie between "Ancient Magic" by Linda Craft and "Captive Audience" by White Zinnia.

So—we're going to hold a vote-off and let you all decide which story is the ultimate winner!

Go to the Fanfic Challenge Voting Form and let us know which story you want to win. And if you're a new voter, go to the Fanfic Challenge Entries page and read 'em all! Just remember, we're taking votes for just the two finalists.

Voting is open until June 28. The ultimate winner will be announced on June 30.

All About the Challenge

The Crusader staff is turning the clock back to the glory days of FK fanfic, when the fic list ran challenges in which writers had to write a story that used a specific sentence. This led to many interesting (and sometimes tortured) entries. For instance, Susan Garrett issued The Snake Challenge, in which an entry had to include the sentence, "Put down the snake and let's talk." (You can find Snake Challenge entries here.)

Think the Snake Challenge was tough? You ain't seen nothin' yet, my friends! The Crusader staff hereby issues:

THE DIDGERIDOO CHALLENGE

Your mission, should you choose to accept it, is to write a story that includes the sentence, **"No, you can't do that with a didgeridoo.**" You can work this in any way you choose—it's the only requirement. The story can take place anywhere and anyone can say the required sentence. Let your imagination run wild!

Oh—here's a website that will tell you all you need to know about didgeridoos.

Challenge Rules

The challenge story deadline is June 1, 2004. Send your story, in plain text format, to Nancy Kaminski. It will be posted on the Crusader website. From June 1 until June 20, we will take votes from the reading public to determine which story is their favorite. The winner will be announced on June 30. The lucky author will receive an Aussie-themed prize!

Fanfic Challenge Entries

Inside the Fiction Challenge
[Home] [Fanfic Challenge Entries] [Fanfic Challenge Voting Form]

Didgeridoo Challenge Fiction Entries

Here are the bravely-submitted entries!

The finalists that tied in the first round of voting are:

- "Ancient Magic" by Linda Craft | email the author

- "Captive Audience" by White Zinnia | email the author

The other entries are:

- "Dream Vacation" by Cousin Mary | email the author
- "The Case of Mistaken Objects" by Edwina Hyde

Don't forget to send the authors your comments! Feedback is the lifeblood of a fanfic writer, and your thoughts are always appreciated.

Didgeridoo Challenge Voting Form

VOTING IS CLOSED

Read all the entries in the Challenge and then vote for your favorite using this form. One vote per reader, please!

Your Name

Your Email

Your Choice Select your favorite fic!
"Ancient Magic" by Linda Craft "Captive Audience" by White Zinnia

Upcoming Events

Here is a listing of some of the upcoming events. If you know of something that should be listed here, contact **Jarvinia** and send her the details. We'll include it in the schedule.

May	
1–2	Great Canadian Baycon Hamilton, Ontario, Canada Gaming con
21–23	Mobicon 7 Mobile, Alabama Science fiction and fantasy con
28–30	MisCon 18 Missoula, Montana Science fiction and fantasy con
28–30	Oasis 17 Orlando, Florida

	Science fiction and fantasy con
30	Vancouver Comicon Vancouver, British Columbia, Canada Comics
June	
11–13	Roc*Kon 2004 North Little Rock, Arkansas Science fiction and fantasy con
11–13	Sci-Fi Summer Con Atlanta, Georgia Science fiction and fantasy
18–20	Moonlight Rising Bushkill, Pennsylvania Buffy/Angel con
24–27	Origins 2004 Columbus, Ohio Gaming con
July	
9–11	Campbell Conference University of Kansas, Lawrence, KS Science fiction con
10–11	Sci-Fi Expo Richardson, TX TV-media con
16–18	Florida Conquest Kissimmee Kissimmee, FL Gaming, LARP, computer gaming, anime
30–Aug 1	ShowMeCon 2004 St. Louis, MO Science fiction and fantasy con
August	
6–8	Gathering of the Gargoyles Montreal, Quebec, Canada Eighth annual Disney Gargoyles con

20–23	Discworld Convention 2004 Hinckley, Leicestershire, England Science fiction con
27–29	Canadian National Comic Book/Science Fiction/Anime Expo Toronto, Ontario, Canada TV/media con

September	
2–6	Noreascon Four Boston, MA The 62nd World Science Fiction Convention
3–5	CopperCon 24 Phoenix, AZ Science fiction and fantasy con
10–12	The Chicagoland Entertainment Collectors Expo Rosemont, IL Star Wars, Star Trek, James Bond, science fiction & fantasy con
30–Oct. 3	Archon 28 Collinsville, IL Gaming and science fiction con

Actor Updates

Geraint Wyn Davies

- **Cyrano de Bergerac** at the Shakespeare Theatre, Washington, DC, June 8 to August 1, 2004. Ger plays the lead, taking over the role from Stacy Keach, who is still recovering from surgery.

Nigel Bennett

- **Codename: Eternity** episode on the Sci-Fi Channel
- **Reversible Errors**, a miniseries with Tom Sellect based on the book by Scott Turow. Nigel plays Talmadge. Tentative airdate May 2004 on CBS.
- **Phantom Force**. Nigel reprises his role as Jack Bevaro, head of hte elite Interceptor Force.
- **North**. A pilot for a documentary series on Arctic exploration.

- **The Company Man**. Nigel plays Finster, the villain in this tale of computer espionage.
- **Post Impact**. Nigel plays Colonel Waters in this futuristic movie with Dean Cain.
- **Living in the Physical World**. In his first multimedia project, Nigel provides the voice of Albert Peritus in this educational CD-ROM.
- **Dark Realm: Emma's Boy**. This new Warner Brothers series has Nigel playing Patrick Lawless in an episode reminiscent of "Rosemary's Baby."
- **Siege Perilous**. The third and final installment of the Keeper of the King book series, with PN Elrod.

Catherine Disher

- **Rolie Polie Olie: The Great Defender of Fun** (2002) The voice of Mom.
- **Coast to Coast** (2003) (TV) Paula Hobday.
- **Political Animals** (2003). Shannon Jennings, fresh out of university, finds herself immersed in the political backrooms of Ottawa in her new job as executive assistant to a federal Cabinet Minister.
- **Rolie Polie Olie: The Baby Bot Chase** (2003). The voice of Mom.

Ben Bass

- **The Chris Isaak Show** (Ben)
- **The Family of Man** (2004)
- **Bliss—Three** (2003). In one of the steamiest, soft porn shows (aside from Queer as Folk) ever to be broadcast on network television comes Bliss. A steamy anthology series, focusing on the sexual desire of women. Written by women, produced by women, created by women, and directed by women.

Lisa Ryder

- **Andromeda.** Lisa Ryder stars as Beka Valentine, commander of the salvage ship Eureka Maru, and first officer of the Andromeda Ascendant.

Classified Ads

If you have something FK- or fan-related you wish to buy, trade, or sell, send your classified ad to Susan Ellen Field. And if you have information about any new zines, let April Hackett know, and we'll get them listed here.

For Sale

- **Forever Knight, A Reference Guide,** by Gwenn Musicante, this 210-page book ($22 plus shipping) is a must-have for fans. Includes information about the actors, writers, directors, filming locations, and more that made up the magic that is FK. There are interviews with many of the cast and crew, and photos of filming locations. See a preview and place your order here.

- **Forever Knight Audio Fan Fiction**. Dragon's Lair Studios, fan-run since 1996, produces fan fiction audio cassettes, $10 a title, all proceeds benefiting charity. *Personal Servitude, Vengeance is Mine, On Holy Ground* (drama); *My Cups Runneth Over*, *Reality is a Lie*, *Fangs for the Memories*, *Darkest Knight, Brightest Light* (comedy) are currently available. **NOTE**: Audio tapes are for an adult audience! And for the Lacroix fans out there—check out the online broadcasts of *Whispers in the Dark* — where brand new CERK radio programs can be heard! To order, visit the Dragon's Lair Studios website or contact Victor Rosetti.

- **New from Dragon's Lair Studios!** *A Christmas Carol* as read by Lacroix, on CD. Vic Rosetti presents a Christmas favorite in the dulcet tones of our favorite master vampire, accompanied by music and special effects. A sample is available from Whispers in the Dark. To order, visit the Dragon's Lair Studios website or contact Victor Rosetti.

- **GWD Videos**. Is there a GWD video missing from your collection, and it's not being aired within one thousand miles of your VCR? Maybe I can help you! Send a self-addressed, stamped envelope for details to Valerie J. Bristor, 2334 Cypress Bend Dr. #912, Pompano Beach FL 33069.

- **Forever Knight Soundtracks**. GNP Crescendo is now offering the two FK soundtracks as a boxed set for $19.98! Fred Mollin's music is a must for every FK fan.

- **Fanzines**. Secret Pleasures Press offers fanzines in many different fandoms, including Forever Knight, due South, Buffy, Dark Shaodws, MacGyver, and X-Files, just to name a few, and caters to many different tastes. They are also currently seeking submissions for a number of upcoming fanzines. Visit their website for more information.

- **Fanzines**. NorthCoast Press offers the new Man from UNCLE zine, *Sins of the Father*, the sequel to *The Father's Day Affair,* by Pat Dunn and Diana Smith. 82 pages, color cover (scrumptious IK drawing by Joni Warden), and comb-bound. $8. Priority postage in the US, $4, airmail to Europe, $8. To order, send a check or

money order (made out to Lisa Madden) to: Lisa Madden, 145 Greenward Way S, North Olmsted OH 44070. Check the NorthCoast Press website for more zines, including these new Buffy titles: *Innocent Blood*, *Trick of the Dark*, *Heart of Darkness*, and *King of the Dark*.

Charity Fanzine. Now offering *A Taste of Forever* in PDF format. This very successful zine earned $2500 for Children's Hospital on behalf of the Geraint Wyn Davies Fan Club, and has been out of print for several years. You can now enjoy fiction by some of the best writers in the fandom as well as illustrations by Dorothy Elggren. $10 plus $3.50 s/h for a CD containing the zine in Adobe Acrobat PDF format. Print out your own copy, or read it online! Contact Nancy Kaminski to order your copy.

- **Fanzines from Intertwined**, the Little Press on the Prairie, Nanci Casad, editor. See list below for zines available. **Postage per book**: US/$3; CAN/$4; UK, EUR/$7; AUS, NZ/$14. (Postage is cheaper when ordering two or more books together—rate based on weight.) **Payment**: Check, cash, or money order in US dollars (send cash at your own risk: use registered mail or conceal it well), or Paypal instant cash transfer (no credit/debit cards accepted). Paypal ID: intertwined@webtv.net. Send payment to Nanci Casad, PO Box 49, Savoy, IL 61874. Questions? Email intertwined@webtv.net or fkn@webtv.net.

Forever, and a Knight. 151 pages. Rated PG. $17 plus postage. Short stories: "1966 Encore" by Sue Burke; six short stories by Candy Vogel; 1 novella, "A Vampire's Promise" by Candy Vogel and Cheryl Schneider; 14 vampire poems by MC Schisler; plus poetry by Sue Burke, Anita Stone, Pristine Aericko.

Putting the Pieces Together by Candy Vogel and Cheryl Schneider. 115 pages. Rated a strong PG-13. $14. Be careful what you wish for, and *how* you wish for it! Natalie wanted to be with Nick, no matter what—in life, in death, or even in darkness. Now she and Nick are together, as vampires. Can she cope with life on the dark side? Third season but it's mostly a Nick and Nat—and LaCroix!—story, with flashbacks to the 1800s, which include Janette.

The Fire by Donna Stripling. 106 pages, rated a strong-PG-13 for sexual content. $14. Someone is killing the vampires of Toronto, and too many innocent mortals are dying in the process. An exciting Third Season story with touches of humor and lots of romance.

The Heart Has Its Reasons by Jamie Melody Randell. 68 pages, PG-13, with tasteful vampire love scenes. $12. A sequel (of sorts) to "Be My Valentine," written *before* "A More Permanent Hell." Natalie is stripped of her memories of Nick's true nature by a mysterious stranger. There is only one vampire with the power to rearrange human minds so effectively, a far more dangerous adversary than LaCroix could ever be—the very being who made LaCroix what he is. Has she come to help Nick, or destroy him?

Forever Knight/Geraint Wyn Davies Scrapbook. 165 pages. $18. Photocopied articles, interviews, reviews, pics (FK, Ger, Cast; Black Harbour, more). This is *not* the "Bluebook" from GWDFC—it's from my own personal scrapbook!

A Vampire in the Theatre, by Nanci Folsom Casad. PG-13. 205 pages. Spiral bound. $15. Novel-length, unique "original vampire" fanzine (not FK). A contemporary story with a flashback to the 1800's. A young woman finds a mysterious, sensitive stranger locked in a storage room in an old theatre. After several strange occurrences lead her to believe the man is a vampire, she sets out to discover the truth, only to complicate matters by falling in love with him along the way. If you like Forever Knight, you'll love A Vampire In the Theatre!

Reviews

New review this month! King Lear

The Crusader is happy to publish reviews of the shows and movies in which Forever Knight actors perform or events at which they appear.

These reviews are all fan-written. Click on one of the links above to find out what we think! If you'd like to contribute your own viewing experiences, submit your review to April Hackett.

Inside Reviews

King Lear

by Lynne Ackerman
April 15, 2004

I was fortunate enough to be able to go to New York at the end of March to see Ger in his Broadway debut in King Lear. This was very much basically the same production I saw in Stratford in August of 2002, but with the addition of Ger, Brent Carver and Claire Julien to the cast. That is to say, the show was as awesome as I'd found it to be in Stratford.

I have to be honest though and say that I've seen Ger do a better job on stage. But I don't blame him in the least. As far as I'm concerned (and I could be totally wrong about this, this is strictly my own opinion) Ger...and the rest of the cast...weren't allowed by the director to deviate too much from his own vision of the play. And I think he wanted the play to be a star vehicle for Chris Plummer, and he wasn't going to let anyone or anything detract from Chris in the least. It's too bad, because I think that deepening the other characters would have added a lot to the play. Mind you, if that had happened, the critics probably couldn't have found words big or descriptive enough to praise the play <g>! As it was, the reviews were superlative...and with good reason!

I'd felt something similar when I saw the play in Stratford, but couldn't quite put my finger on what was bothering me about it. It was only when I saw Ger and Brent Carver

in the play that the idea leapt into my mind. Because I know what both of them are capable of on stage, I could see how "held back" they seemed to be in this production. I saw the play with them in it twice, and it was the same both times, although I did notice that Ger played the role slightly differently each time; however, it was still within a fairly narrow range. The first night he played it more broadly to the audience; the second night he was more swashbuckling in the role, but was playing it more for the rest of the cast...or maybe just for himself.

For those who never got to see the production in either Stratford or New York, it was really quite magnificent, and deserved all the accolades it got from the critics. There wasn't much scenery to speak of...a table, some chairs, a stocks that one of the characters was put into in one scene. Instead, the scenery was mostly "suggested" by the sumptuous costumes (Ger in leather was definitely a high point for me <g>) and by the acting itself. Stratford's thrust stage was also present in Lincoln Center, and the characters used the stairways, balcony and columns liberally in the play, to suggest many different types of places. There were minimal special effects as well - just the noise and lightning of a thunderstorm, at one point. Again, things were more "suggested" than actual, and done through the acting.

This was an extremely prestigious production for Ger's first foray on Broadway, and I feel immensely privileged that I got the chance to see it.

I also got to talk to Ger both nights, and found out he's going to be appearing in Stratford, Ontario in the last two weeks of October, doing Do Not Go Gentle. And Nigel will be appearing there during that time as well, in a separate play. This sounds like a good opportunity to see both of them at the same time in the same place! They're not appearing as part of the Stratford Festival, as far as I know, but both plays will be performed in the city of Stratford (which is about 75 miles from Toronto).

Do Not Go Gentle
Chicago Shakespeare Theatre, May 1–4, 2003

by Nancy Kaminski

"Road trip!"

Tulips on North Michigan Ave.

That was my first thought when I found out that GWD would be presenting his one-man Dylan Thomas show, "Do Not Go Gentle," in Chicago this May. Chicago is a comfortable seven-hour drive from my home in Minneapolis, a straight shot down I-90 through Wisconsin. It was spring, and I was ready to get out on the road for a few vacation days.

My second thought was, "Female bonding opportunity!" so I invited my long-time friend, Julie, to come with me. Julie is not in the fandom, but she's always willing to try something new and potentially amusing. Besides, she needed a break from her family and stay-at-home-mom existence.

So early on the morning of May 1, we wedged ourselves into Junior, my bright green Honda Del Sol, made sure we had a plentiful supply of CDs to listen to, and headed east.

On the journey I attempted to explain the whole fan thing to Julie, but she was, and still is, somewhat bemused by the concept. Oh, well, perhaps Ger would be able to lure her to the Light Side of the Force.

The drive was uneventful, except for being unable to find my favorite Wisconsin rest stop that has the sign that explains the glories of "Sphagnum Moss—Wisconsin's Invisible Industry" (did you know

Field Museum muse of science

that 90% of all sphagnum moss is harvested in Wisconsin? Or that sphagnum moss takes three years to grow back? It's amazing what you can learn in rest stops!) and the torrential downpour that hit fifty miles outside of Chicago and lasted all the way into the city. However, we arrived safe and sound at the Holiday Inn City Centre, just a few blocks from the Navy Pier and the theatre.

We shared a room with Barbara Stone, who took the bus in from Iowa and arrived after us. We met up after Julie and I had explored the Navy Pier and had dinner in the pub there. Fortunately we all got along wonderfully, and didn't even suffer those minor conflicts that come from three females sharing a bathroom.

Friday was our day to enjoy Chicago. We first went to the Field Museum, where the "Eternal Egypt" exhibition on loan from the British Museum was on display. We spent several hours exploring this huge exhibit of exquisite antiquities, and then skimmed over a few other museum exhibits, including the wonderful gem room, and of course, Sue, the Tyrannosaurus Rex. A quick swing through the museum shop, and then we were on our way to North Michigan Avenue and an afternoon of window shopping Nirvana.

"Sue"

North Michigan Avenue in the spring is a glorious sight. The street is lined with large planters filled with tulips, hyacinths, and other bulbs. There must have been millions of tulips in full bloom. Their beauty more than offset the brisk wind coming off Lake Michigan that sent us scurrying into stores to warm up. And if those stores are Tiffany's, Cartiers, Saks Fifth Avenue, and other high-class places, all the better! I did manage to make some purchases, but unfortunately, not at Tiffany's. (I did, however, sample some Tiffany perfume, so at least I could smell expensive!)

Finally, after an excellent dinner at the nearby Big Bowl, we returned to the hotel and dressed for the Friday night performance. We walked the short distance to the Navy Pier and found the theatre. There, we ran into some familiar faces from the FK fandom. It's always nice to see acquaintances when you're in a strange city!

The studio theatre the performance was held in is a small, intimate space, much like the theatre in Stratford where I saw "Do Not Go Gentle" for the first time last summer.

The play's staging was somewhat different than in Stratford, since the stage was configured differently. What was the same was Ger's performance—a masterful interpretation of Dylan

Thomas' conflicted existence. As before, Ger's recitation of Thomas' poetry and prose throughout the play was wonderful.

There was some excitement just before the end of the first act. An older lady in the second row who had some sort of medical problem suddenly moaned several times, rather loudly. There was a bit of a flurry in the audience, and after a moment Ger stopped the play and asked for assistance for her.

A good ten minutes passed while she was laid out on the floor and a wheelchair was brought. All this time the house lights were up and Ger stood quietly on stage, watching what was going on or looking at the papers on the desk onstage. Finally, after the lady was placed in the wheelchair, removed from the theatre, and the chairs rearranged (they had been all moved to make room for her to lie on the floor), the house lights went down and all attention was back onstage. I wondered how Ger would draw us back into the play—this had to be any actor's nightmare—but he managed it very well. He said, in character, "I always have that effect on the ladies!" which drew a laugh and a round of applause. Whereupon he continued from where he had left off, and there was scarcely any sense of discontinuity.

After the play was over, Julie, Barbara, and I retired to the theatre bar for a drink and socializing with other fans—and of course hoping for a chance to see Ger. Sure enough, he did make an appearance, and circulate a bit greeting people before retiring to the corner table to sit with Rosemary, George, and Quinn. We enjoyed ourselves until almost midnight before calling it a night and strolling back to the hotel.

The next morning we had a leisurely breakfast and said our farewells. Julie and I took a few more hours to do some more window shopping on North Michigan before retrieving Junior and heading home. We discussed the play, Ger, and the fan phenomenon again, now that Julie had actually seen it in action. Had I made a convert? I don't know—but Julie did say, "I guess I should see some episodes of that show to see what the fuss is all about." I guess that's progress in the right direction!

LCA

Lights, Camera, Auction Take 6

by Desiree Collins

September 19-21, 2003
International Plaza Hotel
655 Dixon Road
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Reservations: 800-668-3656

Lights, Camera, Auction, affectionately known as LCA, is an annual nonprofit charity auction sponsored by the Motion Picture Industry Charitable Alliance (MPICA). MPICA was founded by FK’s very own Nigel Bennett, John Kapelos, and Jon Cassar.

LCA features items donated by studios, theatres, actors, directors, producers, and crew members of popular movies, television series, and stage productions. This gives fans an opportunity to collect special memorabilia while simultaneously generating funds for worthy causes. The charities selected benefit both from the generosity of the donations, and from

the enthusiasm and support of the fans. Each LCA benefits one US and one Canadian charity, with different charities selected each year.

While the primary focus of LCA is to raise badly-needed funds for the charities, it is much, much more. The key phrases for this weekend are “Fun, fun, fun” and “Sleep—who needs it?”

A typical weekend starts on Friday with a group of fans meeting in the hotel’s restaurant for dinner. Later in the evening, there’s a Wrap Reel Marathon, which includes bloopers and outtakes from some of our favorite shows.

Saturday and Sunday feature the main auction, a silent auction, a raffle, Q&A panels, workshops, and door prizes. And of course we can’t forget the Saturday night party, featuring a buffet, dancing, and much hilarity. You may even see some of the guest auctioneers (actors, directors, or crew) displaying fine form on the dance floor. A favorite is Malcolm Xerxes, actor/stuntman (he introduced himself to me by saying, “Hi, I’m Malcolm, and I’ve been killed ten times on Nikita.”) who really seems to enjoy himself at all LCA functions.

The auction is always hosted by one or more of the MPICA founders (Jon Cassar directs the auction as ably as he directs on a sound stage; Nigel Bennett works tirelessly, as does his son, Sam, an auction favorite) and features a variety of guest auctioneers from the Toronto entertainment scene. We’ve seen actors from Psi Factor, Mutant X, Forever Knight, and La Femme Nikita, to name just a few shows, help auction off scripts, props, and costumes. You never know what will happen during the auction, and some of the auctioneers go to great lengths to run up the bids.

Let’s not forget the infamous “Coke Can Challenge,” where each auctioneer is required to auction off a signed can of Coke. This is a spectacle not to be believed—the auctioneers have done many strange and wonderful things to try to have the most expensive Coke can at the auction. We’ve seen strip teases, cans “tortured” by the Nikita Torture Twins, artfully decorated cans, promises of the actor sharing the coke with the winning bidder in a private little tete-a-tete, and more. It sometimes seems like everyone goes crazy during this part of the auction!

Throughout the weekend, you will get to meet fellow fans and make new friends. For those newbies who will be attending LCA for the first time, fear not—you will be taken under someone’s wing. I myself was a newbie at LCA4, and it was a blast. My only regret was that I only came for the weekend. If you have a little extra vacation time, Toronto is a great city to explore and Niagara is only an hour and a half drive away.

For all the most up-to-date information on the upcoming LCA6, and for pictures and information from past auctions, visit the MPICA website.

Do or Die
Sci Fi Channel Original Movie (originally released in 2002)

by Desiree Collins

Cast
Shawn Doyle—Det. Alan Yann
Polly Shannon—Ruth Hennessey
Nigel Bennett—Ethan Grant
Guylaine St-Onge—Iona
Alan Van Sprang—Tink
Christopher Tai—Kenji
Kristin Fairlie—Fatima
Salvatore Migliore—Det. Ogilvy
Lyrig Banh—Captain Mueller

Twenty years ago, a genetically engineered virus escaped from a lab and infected Earth with a disease that ages its victims a year in a day. The world has been divided into the ruling "Cleans" and the lower-class "Infecteds."

Dr. Ethan Grant (Nigel Bennett) has developed a medication called anZANOL that can slow the process. However, anZANOL leaves a blue stain, marking all Infecteds as lepers, relegating them to desperate, violent lives in the Bluelands.

Mother-to-be Ruth Hennessey is a Clean. Unknown to her, her husband Jack is a "Crossover"—an Infected passing for Clean. And when Jack is uncovered and killed, even Ruth's own parents turn their backs on a daughter who would have an Infected child.

With the government and the powerful Granttine Corporation, maker of anZANOL, out to terminate her and her rapidly growing fetus, Ruth desperately runs to the Bluelands. There, trailed by cop Alan Yann, she encounters the Radpunk underground headed by Jack's former lover, Iona. Called terrorists, they liberate precious supplies of anZANOL, for those who cannot afford it.

In the end Ruth selflessly gives her own life to cure her son, who in turn will produce the antibodies that will one day cure the world.

Travelogues

Travels in Toronto

by Nancy Kaminski

I first traveled to Toronto on business in 1997, to attend a technical writer's conference. The week I spent there was the start of a love affair with this cosmopolitan, fascinating city.

Since then, I've been back numerous times, almost always in connection with some fan-related event. I didn't limit myself to the event venue, but tried to take additional days to explore Toronto and Ontario. Here are some of the fun spots to visit.

Getting Around
I've both flown and driven to Toronto. It's handy to have a car, especially if you're staying somewhere outside of the downtown area. However, public transportation is excellent, and so a car isn't absolutely necessary. If you're downtown, in fact, it's better to not have one at all---parking can be very expensive and the traffic is heavy almost all the time. Not to mention the sometimes-confusing one-way streets! Take advantage of the buses, streetcars, and subway---these plus a willingness to walk will get you where you want to go.

If you're visiting Toronto for the first time, you'll want to take the **FK Tour** and visit many of the locations where the show was filmed. Marg Yamanaka has been providing this tour for years, and is always gracious about finding time to show a newcomer around her city. It's fun to drive around a corner and suddenly see something that's so familiar from watching the show—"Look, it's Don Schanke's house!" or "It's the Apartment Building of the Damned!"

There's also the traditional photo in front of the **Coroner's Building** sign that's a must for every tour. On one of my tours, a distinguished-looking gentleman entering the building eyed our group standing in front of the sign and said jokingly, "Would you like me to wheel out a body for the picture?" He was the Provincial Coroner! He very kindly stood with us for a picture in front of the sign. I'm not sure if he really grasped why a group of women were so fascinated with his building, but he humored us in true polite Canadian fashion.

Tours usually include the **Metropolitan Police Gift Shop** located in Police Headquarters. Marg is a familiar face there, and the clerk is used to eager FK fans buying trinkets as a memento. (I thought the little handcuff key chains were very nice, especially if you're in the UF.)

Of course there's lots to see in Toronto besides FK locations. Some things well worth a visit are:

Casa Loma

Casa Loma, a Victorian folly built at the turn of the century to resemble a Scottish castle. Meander through the lovely gardens and go up on the roof for a wonderful view of downtown Toronto. You're likely to recognize the building, because it's used as a location by La Femme Nikita and other shows many times.

The Royal Ontario Museum. The ROM was featured in Dark Knight, but it's worth a visit for more reasons than just looking at a film location. It houses a very diverse collection of art and antiquities from all over the world.

Royal Ontario Museum

The Bata Shoe Museum. Yes, a museum full of shoes, from ancient times right through current designer high heels! Even if you're not obsessed with nonsensible shoes, you'll enjoy seeing what people have been strapping to their feet since the days of the pharaohs.

Eaton Centre

Eaton Center. Good shopping, what can I say? and the Hudson Bay Company ("The Bay") is right across the street.

Yonge Street. Walk down the longest street in the world (it starts in Toronto and ends 1600 miles later in Rainy River, Minnesota) just to window-shop and people watch. It's funky, vulgar, and fun. Don't forget to buy a hot dog or Polish and soft drink from one of the many cart vendors. They're delicious, and a bargain for just a toonie.

Toronto Chinatown

Chinatown. Take a stroll in Chinatown, centered on Dundas Street. It's like visiting China---all the signs are in Chinese, and merchants show their wares out on the sidewalk. I like to play "guess what's in that bin" but I usually can't identify it. It could be anything from a dried squid tentacle to exotic mushrooms---and the sign on the bin is in Chinese, so I'm left in the dark.

The CN Tower/Skydome/Union Station. Everyone needs to go up to the top of the CN tower at least once. You can just go up to the observation deck, or eat in the 360 Restaurant (it revolves, and gives you great views of the city and the lake). Don't forget to stand on the glass floor and look straight down! While you're in this area, stroll around the Skydome and note the humorous statues of fans at a ball game. And walk the skyway over to Union Station, which we've seen many times on TV---Tracker shot there, as did Nikita and many other shows.

The PATH. I'm convinced this is why there are so many vampires in Toronto—they can go shopping during the day in this 10-kilometer maze of underground shops and hallways underneath the buildings of downtown Toronto. I guarantee you'll get lost and need to surface in order to find out where you are.

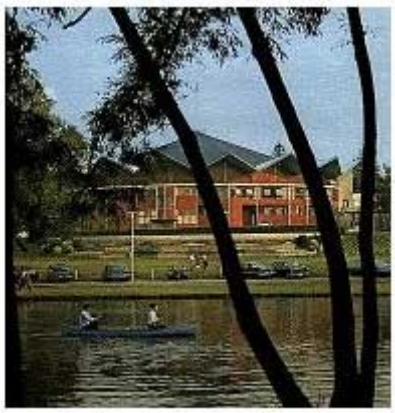
If you want to explore outside of Toronto, there are several day trips I've enjoyed.

Niagara Falls
It's an easy one and a half-hour drive down the QEW to Niagara Falls. I enjoy just sitting and watching the water rush by, but you can also take a ride on the Maid of the Mists or visit

many of the shops in the surrounding area. There's a chocolate museum and a Mounties store, too!

Once you've had your fill of the Falls, drive down Niagara Parkway towards **Niagara-on-the-Lake**. You'll find beautiful flower gardens, a butterfly conservatory, and many vineyards on this lovely drive. There are also hiking trails down into the Niagara Escarpment that allow you to enjoy the river gorge on foot.

End your day trip by visiting Niagara-on-the-Lake. This is a small town that attracts many tourists with its quaint beauty and small shops. I don't think I've ever managed to leave this town without having bought something!



Stratford Festival Theatre

Stratford
Stratford is also one and a half hours from Toronto. Even if Ger isn't doing a play there, it's well worth a visit to this small town. Stratford's main industry is the Shakespeare Festival, and everything you see seems to be either theatre or Shakespeare related. The theatre season lasts all summer and fall---stop by the box office in the Festival Theatre to buy a rush ticket for one of the many productions being presented that day.

While you're waiting for your play to begin, walk along the Avon River and watch the swans and ducks beg for treats from picnickers, and enjoy the many beautiful gardens. Or head over to the main street and browse the shops. If it's Shakespeare-related, you can buy it here!

This is just an overview of the many things on offer in Toronto and Ontario. I recommend any one of the many excellent guide books (I like Fodor's Toronto, myself) to help you get the most out of your visit to the City of the Knight. Happy journey!

Forever Knight Links

• Fan Clubs

- The Official Geraint Wyn Davies Fan Club
- Black Hat Station—The Nigel Bennett Fan Club
- The John Kapelos Fan Club
- The Official Ben Bass Fan Club
- Bentley's Bedlam—Natsuko Ohama
- The Official Fred Mollin Fan Club Home Page

• Faction Websites

- Forever Knighties!
- The Dark Knightie Home Page
- Dark Nick and Nat Homepage

- Nunkies Anonymous
- The Unnamed Faction
- The Cousinly Page
- The CERK Perks
- The Cousins of the Knight
- The Immortal Beloveds
- The Night Shift
- The Good, the Bad, and the Perky
- The Dark Perkulators Mansion
- Vachon's Church
- Sanctuary—A Page for Vaqueros
- The NickKnack CaddyWhack Home Page
- The Rat Patrol Page
- Screed Was Here

- Mother Moon
- Merc Central
- The Urchin Sympathizers

• Fan Websites

- List Gardener's Tips for Managing Forever Knight List Subscriptions
- The First Unofficial Forever Knight Website
- Cousin Heather's Web Page
- Save Forever Knight
- Kickstart the Knight
- Lady LC's Lucien Lacroix Page
- The CERK Archives
- Knight Vision

- DCE's Forever Knight Page
- Mr. Happy's Forever Knight Site
- Beck's Forever Knight Page
- Knight's Loft
- Forever Knight—The Unofficial Web Page
- Embracing the Knight
- The Forever Knight Fun Page
- The N&Npack Photo and Sound Shop
- The Lurker Site
- NiteRose's Forever Knight History Link Page
- Bev Freed's Forever Knight Website
- Ainsley's Forever Knight Page
- Cousin Tina's Homepage
- Forever Knight Photos

- The Forever Knight Fanzine List
- Friends of Forever Knight
- Lucard's Home Page (Dracula: The Series)

• Fan Fiction Websites

- Forever Knight Fan Fiction Archive
- Forever Knight Fan Fiction FTP Site
- The Library of Lost Souls—Susan M. Garrett's Fan Fiction
- April French's Forever Knight Fan Fiction
- KnightBuds—Fan Fiction by April Hackett and Susan Field
- Nancy Kaminski's Fan Fiction
- Cindy Ingram's Fan Fiction
- Kathy Whelton's Fan Fiction

- Erika Wilson's Fan Fiction
- Jean Graham's Fan Fiction Archive
- Nunkies Anonymous Choose Your Own Adventure
- Bons' Forever Knight Fan Fiction Wasteland
- Elfin's Forever Knight Fan Fiction
- Cousin Mary's Archive
- Bright Knight—Amy Rambow's Forever Knight Pages

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For Forever Knight on Video/DVD

- Columbia House Video Library
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- Columbia TriStar Home Video
  2800 South River Rd
  Des Plaines IL 60018
  (847) 699-6340

- Columbia TriStar Home Video
  22 W645 Armitage Ave
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